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## MEDIA BUREAU ANNOUNCES CLOSE OF NCE FM NEW STATION FILING WINDOW AND TEMPORARY FILING FREEZE ON AMENDMENTS TO APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED IN THE NOVEMBER 2021, FILING WINDOW

MB Docket No. 20-343

The filing window for applications for new noncommercial educational (NCE) FM new station construction permits closed at 6:00 pm EST on Tuesday, November 9, 2021. No further NCE FM new station applications may be filed. Any application submitted after the 6:00 pm EST November 9, 2021, application deadline will be dismissed by public notice without further consideration.

The Media Bureau (Bureau) also announces a temporary freeze on the filing of *any* amendments to NCE FM new station applications submitted in the November 2021, filing window. The freeze will take effect immediately and will continue in effect until 6:00 pm EST on Monday, November 29, 2021. During this time, the Bureau staff will review the applications to identify mutually exclusive (MX) groups of applications<sup>2</sup> and applications that are not mutually exclusive with any other application filed in the window (singletons).<sup>3</sup> Following this period, the Bureau expects to release forthcoming public notices to identify the MX groups of applications and explain the procedures for filing settlement agreements and technical amendments.<sup>4</sup>

For additional information, please contact Amy Van de Kerckhove, Amy.Vandekerckhove@fcc.gov; Arthur Doak, Arthur.Doak@fcc.gov; Rodolfo Bonacci, Rodolfo.Bonacci@fcc.gov; or Lisa Scanlan, Lisa.Scanlan@fcc.gov, of the Media Bureau, Audio Division, (202) 418-2700. Direct press inquiries to Janice Wise, Janice.Wise@fcc.gov, (202) 418-8165.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The filing window opened on November 2, 2021. The window was available for FM reserved band (channels 201-220) proposals. *See* 47 CFR § 73.501.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Conflicting NCE FM applications, which cannot all be granted consistent with the Commission's technical rules, are considered mutually exclusive. A MX group consists of all applications which are MX to at least one other application in the group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Rule compliant singleton applications will be accepted for filing. The acceptance for filing of these singletons will start the 30-day period for filing petitions to deny. *See* 47 CFR § 73.7004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Before proceeding to a comparative analysis, MX applicants will have an opportunity to resolve conflicts through settlements or technical amendments.